

Today and every day, we honor the lives of our fallen, including Officer Tommy Decker, of Cold Spring, Minnesota, who was killed in the line of duty in 2012 while doing a welfare check.

May they have eternal rest; may their legacy of service to their communities live on, and may those they left behind find comfort and peace.

Blessed are the peacemakers.

THE BAD HABIT OF PATCH FUNDING

(Ms. NORTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, we are getting a bad habit of patch funding in 6-month increments what traditionally has been a 6-year surface transportation bill. Virtually no major projects are underway in the Nation as a result. Six-month patch funding has produced patch roadwork.

Worse, road and bridge funding, in turn, is delaying billions of dollars in development that can't get started without new roads.

The Washington Post showcased our example featuring overhaul of Union Station, which cannot proceed without a new bridge.

Transportation funding delay is stopping a lot more than transportation infrastructure. Our districts need long-term reauthorization.

COMMUNICATION FROM VETERANS ADVOCATE OF THE OFFICE OF THE 18TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Veterans Advocate of the Office of the 18th Congressional District of Illinois:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
Washington, DC, May 1, 2015.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally pursuant to rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives that I have been served with a grand jury subpoena for testimony issued by the United States District Court for the Central District of Illinois.

I have determined that compliance with the subpoena is consistent with the privileges and rights of the House.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL GILMORE,
Veterans Advocate (IL-18).

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, May 12, 2015.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,
The Speaker, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on May 12, 2015 at 9:38 a.m.:

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 651.

That the Senate passed S. 179.

That the Senate passed S. 136.

That the Senate passed S. 994.

That the Senate agreed to S. Con. Res. 16.

Appointments:

Board of Directors of Office of Compliance.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

MELANOMA AND SKIN CANCER DETECTION AND PREVENTION MONTH

(Mr. BILIRAKIS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, May is Melanoma and Skin Cancer Detection and Prevention Month.

One person dies of melanoma every hour. There will be over 73,000 new cases of invasive melanoma in the United States this year. Early detection is crucial to prevention.

I would like to highlight a very brave constituent of mine, McKenna Fitzpatrick. She is in the fourth grade at Seven Oaks Elementary School and bravely faced skin cancer.

Despite being so young, she detected her skin cancer early, had a biopsy, dealt with her diagnosis, and overcame the challenges. McKenna's experience is a testament to the virtue of early detection.

Take care of yourself when you are outside or any other time you may be exposed to UV light. This is extremely important for residents of Florida and people across the Nation. This summer, enjoy the beach safely and responsibly.

CLIMATE CHANGE IS HAPPENING

(Mr. LOWENTHAL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, a new global record was set last week, but this is not a good record. The atmospheric concentration of carbon dioxide surpassed 400 parts per million for an entire month. This is the first time we have reached these levels in over 800,000 years. This is a serious and a potent reminder that we have not yet acted on climate change.

The last time CO₂ concentrations were this high, the world was a hotter place. There were forests in the Arctic, and sea levels were meters higher than they are today.

Our planet is telling us that climate change is happening. We owe it to our

constituents to put aside partisan differences and to begin to work on solutions to this global problem.

HONORING THE LIFE OF CHIEF FLOYD SIMPSON

(Mr. FARENTHOLD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FARENTHOLD. Mr. Speaker, I am here today to honor a friend who recently died in a motorcycle accident. On May 3, in my hometown of Corpus Christi, our police chief, Floyd Simpson, died.

Originally from Chicago, Chief Simpson felt drawn to Texas. As a 25-year veteran of the Dallas Police Department before moving to Corpus Christi, Chief Simpson established a reputation as a "legend in the department," and according to his peers, he was an outstanding "human being, husband, and father."

He was a great communicator, regularly appearing on the radio and at community events throughout the Coastal Bend. In his interview for the job of chief of police, Corpus Christi City Manager Ron Olson asked him to describe his values. Chief Simpson replied that faith comes first, family second, and everything else comes after that.

In the wake of Chief Simpson's passing, State and local officials are coming together to make State Highway 361 safer. Even in death, he will continue to help keep others safe.

My heart and prayers go out to Tanya, Chief Simpson's wife of 27 years, and his children.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 4 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 13 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1601

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. YOUNG of Iowa) at 4 o'clock and 1 minute p.m.

REPORT ON H.R. 2250, LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2016

Mr. GRAVES of Georgia, from the Committee on Appropriations, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 114-110) on the bill (H.R. 2250) making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, and for other purposes, which was referred to the Union Calendar and ordered to be printed.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 1, rule XXI, all points of order are reserved on the bill.